

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Patent Application of:  
Katsuo Sugahara**

Application No.: 10/501,100

Confirmation No.: 5559

Filed: July 6, 2004

Art Unit: 1793

**For: NI BASED ALLOY WITH EXCELLENT  
CORROSION RESISTANCE TO  
SUPERCRITICAL WATER ENVIRONMENTS  
CONTAINING INORGANIC ACIDS**

Examiner: J. R. Roe

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING RCE**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.